

What is Herndon's Cultivating Community Initiative?

The Cultivating Community Initiative (CCI) is an on-going program within the Town of Herndon. Its purpose is to enrich the quality of life in Herndon by encouraging neighborhood beautification and by building community spirit.

The Cultivating Community Initiative is made up of resident volunteers and Town staff members who work to promote many programs to meet the goals of the Initiative.

Cultivating Community programs include:

1. **Yard of the Month** – Three months out of the year, members of the CCI use specific criteria to judge yards that have been nominated for this award for beautifully kept yards. Winners receive a yard sign, a \$100 gift certificate, and public recognition in the newspapers and at a Town Council meeting.
2. **Neighborhood Celebration Month** – Each May, the CCI encourages all the neighborhoods around the Town to plan a social event within their neighborhoods. Suggested events could be such things as block parties, pool parties, community yard sales, or clean-up days. Neighborhoods that organize such events are provided with promotional materials, are recognized in the local newspaper, and are visited by various Town Council members.
3. **Good Neighbor Award** – The CCI encourages residents to nominate a special person within their neighborhood who goes the extra mile to help other neighbors, and who makes noteworthy contributions to improve the quality of life within their neighborhood. Winners are presented with a plaque by the Mayor at a Town Council meeting and are given additional public recognition in the local newspaper.
4. **Garden Tour** – The CCI plans and operates a self-guided tour of selected Herndon homes which have particularly beautiful gardens. Proceeds from the Garden Tour go to support the Cultivating Community Initiative.
5. **Dress Up Herndon for the Holidays** – In December, residents may nominate their own homes or their neighbors' homes for this holiday home/yard decoration contest. Members for the CCI act as judges. Awards may be given in various categories such as "Whimsical," or "Classical." Winners receive a yard sign as well as a certificate from the Mayor and public recognition.